GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4496
ANSWERED ON:25.04.2005
PRICE STABLISATION FUND
Mohite Shri Subodh

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the `Price Stablisation Fund` becomes functional;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is considering to bring `cotton and orange` growers under the purview of the fund;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Price Stablisation Fund (PSF) has been established with a corpus of Rs. 500 crore which Â¦includes Rs. 482.88 crore as a one time contribution by the Central Government and Rs. 17.12 crore as a non-refundable initial contribution by the Participating growers @ Rs. 500/- per grower. The objective of the Scheme is to provide relief to the growers of tea, coffee, rubber and tobacco when the prices of these commodities fall below a specific level. So far, 30,605 growers have enrolled themselves under the Scheme. Commodity-wise enrolment of growers is Rubber-18,307, Coffee-9,521 and Tea-2,777. No tobacco grower has so far enrolled under the Scheme. The price spectrum band for the year 2003 in respect of tea, coffee and rubber was announced based on which the pay-in and pay-out liability, in respect of Members enrolled upto 31st March 2004, was made. The price spectrum band for these commodities for the year 2004 has also recently been announced.

(c) to (e) There is no proposal to include additional crops like cotton and orange under the PSF Scheme. Crops like cotton are covered under the Price Support Scheme. While cotton Is covered under the Minimum Support Price (MSP) Scheme, orange is covered under the Market Intervention Scheme (MIS).